

**From: Baltic Sea Hydrographic Commission
Captain Henryk Nitner**

**To: IRCC3 Chairman
Mr. Gilles Bessero**

Re.: Action IRC02/05

a) Methodology used for assessing and display survey status, taking into account navigational and MSDI requirements

The issue of survey data display, with regard to the Baltic Sea, has been described in detail in the attached Report made by Juha Korhonen of Finland. He is the Chairman of a working group (Monitoring WG) established, by BSHC, to develop and monitor the resurveying process, which is in progress in the Baltic Sea, following a decision taken by the Baltic Sea Environmental Protection Commission, (Helsinki Commission - HELCOM). The database, used by HOs in the Baltic Sea, provides full capabilities for both the assessment of the current resurvey status in routes and Baltic areas and relevant plans. Supplementary presentation in this regard could be given at IRCC3.

As for paper charts, released by BSHC nations, they are compiled based on commonly implemented IHO guidelines and the INT charts demonstrate relevant information about source data. Usually, the information is in the form of diagrams showing particular survey data coverage (including the surveys' year and, sometimes, their compilation scale) or numbers of foreign charts used to produce national charts.

b) The implementation of the guidance for the preparation and maintenance of International Charts Scheme

Most of BSHC Member States (Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Poland, Sweden) has voted for the adoption of Edition 2.003 of the IHO Publication S-11 Part A Guidance for the Preparation and Maintenance of International Chart Schemes. The INT charts coverage issue has been dealt with by the BSICC (as a part of BSHC), the Committee of which, in 2010, was converted into Baltic Sea International Charting Coordination Working Group (BSICCWG). The BSICCWG is a subsidiary body of the Baltic Sea Hydrographic Commission. Among the main tasks of that WG are: to study issues related to nautical charting of the Baltic Sea and to coordinate the allocation of production responsibilities for paper and electronic charts (INT charts and ENC), that support ships engaged on international voyages; to develop and maintain an integrated international chart scheme for the region, to monitor Baltic Sea ENC harmonization actions.

c) Experience in dealing with marine disasters in relation with IHO guidelines (TR 1/2005).

At present I have no experience at this matter – happily, during last years there was no serious maritime disaster, which caused the need of coordinating action national hydrographic services. As I know, the BSHC does not have any “hydrographic disaster plan”, agreed by all member states (hydrographic offices). But, the countries of our region usually have their own plans of acting during some danger events at sea. The important role of that matter plays the World Wide Navigational Warning Service – The Baltic Sea Sub-Area..

d) Strategies to involve non-IHO MSs in RHC’s activities.

At present, we do not have at the Baltic Sea region any country not belonged to the IHO, except Lithuania, which is the Associate Member. Lithuania is participating actively to BSHC work.

Annex: Baltic Sea Hydrographic Commission Approach for Coordinating Hydrographic Surveys on the Baltic Sea and for Displaying Survey Status.